



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

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Joan Anzelmo/Jackie Skaggs
307 739-3393 (fax 739-3419)

Grand Teton National Park News Release

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR. MEMORIAL PARKWAY FIRE MANAGED FOR RESOURCE BENEFIT

A lightning-ignited fire, discovered September 4th on the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway, is being managed for resource benefits by Teton Interagency fire managers. The Grassy Fire is located about one mile south of Grassy Lake Reservoir on the boundary between the parkway and the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. Lightning on August 29 ignited the half-acre fire.

The Grassy Fire burned down logs and forest litter for several days before weekend rains slowed its progress. Due to recent heavy rains, minimal activity is expected to occur on the Grassy Fire. Rain gauges at a remote weather station located north of the fire recorded 1.9 inches of precipitation over the weekend. Interagency fire staff will continue to patrol the Grassy Lake Road and monitor activity on the Grassy Fire, as dry weather is predicted to return this week.

This fire is located in Grand Teton National Park's Wildland Fire Use zone. The park's Fire Management Committee reviewed the fire and approved a fire use management strategy on September 6. This strategy allows for management of fires to benefit resources, while providing for public and firefighter safety. Fires like the Grassy Fire may reduce a heavy loading of ground fuels and create openings in a closed canopy forest, allowing for regeneration of shrubs and conifers.

All trails and roads in the area remain open, but hikers are asked to use caution and remain alert to fire activity and hazardous snags when traveling through a fire use area.

This marks the 18th fire in the park and parkway this summer. Seven fires were human-caused and eleven have been lightning-caused.

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